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INSIDE THE BELTWAY

Qaddafi's convention

An intelligence officer who monitored Col. Muammar Qaddafi's "Second International General Conference for a World Forum to Combat Imperialism, Zionism, Racism, Reaction and Fascism" in mid-March in Tripoli, Libya, reported that several training seminars featured weapons and explosives.

The source told the Early Warning newsletter that a highlight of the event was the demonstration of an easily concealable, shoulder-mounted weapon, tentatively identified as a Soviet-manufactured RPO-A (rocket-propelled infantry flame-thrower). If used against a parked aircraft, a single shell could destroy a jumbo jet. Used extensively in Afghanistan, the weapon is accurate, has a rapid rate of fire, and can be used with incendiary, white phosphorus, chemical or anti-personnel shells.

It was also reported that among those in Tripoli was a small group of American blacks, believed to be from Chicago, who were attached to the Sandinista delegation and who claimed to have received training in Nicaragua. Among the U.S. organizations attending were Stokely Carmichael's All-Africa People's Revolutionary Party; a "Red Indian group whose headquarters is in Los Angeles;" and the group most prominently singled out for praise by Col. Qaddafi himself, the Nation of Islam, whose delegation was led by Louis Farrakhan.

— John Elvin